



countdown

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Work being done on Atlantis for November launch



◆ Shuttle Update:

On space shuttle **Atlantis**, work to prepare for the STS-129 mission includes payload upload, payload interface testing, S-band antenna tile bonding, and SSME heat shield installation. Targeted rollover to the VAB is Oct. 7.

◆ **ELV Update:** The **Space Tracking and Surveillance System – Demonstrators** spacecraft is scheduled to launch Sept. 15 from CCAFS Launch Pad 17-B on a Delta II rocket. The Delta was powered on last week for state of health checks and associated testing. The STSS Demo payload arrived at the launch pad for hoisting atop the Delta II on Aug. 27. Spacecraft ground support equipment also arrived at the pad last week.

A verification test of the Helioseismic and Magnetic Imager on the **Solar Dynamics Observatory** was successfully performed last week. The three primary science instruments were powered up for a Ka-band data flow checkout. The Atmospheric Imaging Assembly high output paraffin actuator door deployment test was completed Aug. 25. Launch of the SDO is targeted for no earlier than Dec. 4.

■ **Use Your Smartcard to Access Your Desktop Computer** — In the next several months KSC will be implementing the use of Smartcards for desktop login on Windows systems. The PIV badge, or Smartcard, that you use to gain entrance to KSC and the PIN you selected when you received your Smartcard may be used to access your desktop.

Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

■ **KEA Academy** — Upcoming presentations include "Prototype Lab" on Sept. 17 (KEA-47) presented by Todd Steinrock from 10 to 11 a.m. and "Tin Whiskers (Part 2)" on Sept. 29 (KEA-48) presented by Dr. Karim Courey and Clara Wright from 1 to 2 p.m. Presentations will be held in the Training Auditorium.

■ **NASA Science** — NASA is planning a daring new mission to investigate the universe's favorite way of making things explode. Unlocking the secrets of "magnetic reconnection" could help alleviate the energy crisis on Earth. You can read the full story at:

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2009/31aug_mms.htm.

■ **"Tour de KSC" Coming Oct. 17** — KSC is planning the Tour de KSC, a bike-ride event on center just for employees and a limited number of their guests. Mark your calendars and save the date!

The event will be from 8 a.m. until noon. The routes vary in length from 15 to 44 miles. Multiple pace groups will be assigned on each route -- this is **not** a race. The Tour de KSC event is linked to Cancer Awareness Day, which will be held for employees Oct. 16. Tickets for the tour will be \$20 each. Employees will be able to purchase up to four tickets. Proceeds will go to the CFC General Fund.



■ **Saving Energy** — It takes commitment from everyone at KSC and CCAFS to help save

Next ELV launch targeted for Sept. 15

energy dollars. Every day, and especially before this holiday weekend, before going home for the day, please remember to:

- Turn off your computer, monitor and printer (if not required to remain on).
- Turn off the lights in your office when you are the last person to leave.
- Turn off the hall and hall closet lights on your way out, if you are the last person to leave your area in the building.
- Turn off displays and decorative lights.
- Turn off or unplug any appliances in the office, such as coffee makers, desk lamps, fans, radios, etc.
- Turn off the copier machines (including hallways) and scanners. Please do not turn off the new multifunction (copier/fax) machines, such as the Xerox Workcentre devices. These machines have their sleep mode enabled. Also, turning them off will prevent the office from receiving faxes.
- Close the blinds on all windows.
- Ensure that no objects interfere with the operation of motion sensors. Anything that can move around will prevent the motion sensors from shutting off the lights.

Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. Deadlines are 9 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to anita.l.barret@nasa.gov. For questions or information, e-mail or call 867-2815. You can also find PDF editions of *Countdown* on the Web at: http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown_toc.html.